

Alamo Heights News

CITY OF ALAMO HEIGHTS

6116 BROADWAY

78209

Volume 1, Issue 10

November/December 2007

Voters Approve all Three City Propositions

Almost 15% (775) of the City's 5,246 registered voters turned out for the Special Election on November 6, 2007 to vote on three City Propositions.

The election results are as follows:

Proposition One - Amended the City Charter to eliminate provisions which have become inoperative because they have been superseded by state law; to replace citations to

obsolete statutory references; to update terminology to current legal usage, and to eliminate the obsolete transitional provisions which no longer have any effect.

FOR - 717 AGAINST - 48

Proposition Two – Amended the City Charter to change the form of government from Mayor-Aldermanic to Council-Manager.

FOR - 495 AGAINST - 244

Proposition Three – Established a limitation on the amount of ad valorem taxes imposed on the residential homestead of a person who is disabled or is sixty-five (65) years of age or older and received a residence homestead exemption.

FOR - 677 AGAINST - 92

For further information please contact the City Secretary, Denise Silva at 832-2209 or dsilva@alamoheightstx.gov.

Shopping Locally Benefits All

Local, independent, one-of-a-kind businesses are located throughout the Alamo Heights "downtown" area. Shoppers can pick up freshly baked bread, shop for unique gifts, get a favorite picture framed, or choose a good book. You can have your hair and nails done, get your medical needs met by local physicians and pharmacy, or apply for a mortgage at your friendly community bank. And, of course, well-known area restaurants serve a variety of great foods.

These businesses add to the character of Alamo Heights by contributing more than just goods and services. They offer personalized attention, add diversity to shopping options, and occupy renovated historic buildings. When you spend locally, you are strengthening and supporting the vitality of the community.

Three new businesses recently joined the Alamo Heights community, Don Yarton Antiques, Saturday Market and Merchants Grand Café. Don Yarton Antiques, is located at 5424 Broadway, the site where the famous Pegasus adorns the roof of the old Mobil Station. Saturday Market is located at 4704 Broadway, in the strip center shared by other unique businesses such as Smoothie King and Threadz. Merchants Grand Café is located at 5939 Broadway, the former site of the Alamo Heights Hardware Store. Please join us in welcoming these new businesses to Alamo Heights and remember to Shop Local!

AH Rotary Makes Donation

The Alamo Heights Rotary Club made a generous donation of \$7,300 to the Alamo Heights Police Department to fund the D.A.R.E. Program during the 2008–2009 school year.

Community Resource Officer J.W. Petrash provides instruction in the D.A.R.E. curriculum to more than 700 students in the Alamo Heights Independent School District, St. Luke's Episcopal School and St. Peter's Prince of the Apostles Catholic Church School.

Calendar

December

3	Planning and Zoning Commission	5:30 p.m.
5	Board of Adjustments Meeting	5:30 p.m.
10	City Council Meeting	5:30 p.m.
11	Architectural Review Board Meeting	5:30 p.m.
25	Holiday – Christmas	

Note: Holiday Solid Waste Pickup Schedule will be in effect for the weeks of December 24th and December 31st.

***The City of Alamo Heights would like to wish you and your family a
Happy Holiday Season!***

911 for EMERGENCY

Fire/EMS (Non Emergency): 824-1281

Police (Non-Emergency): 822-3321

Police Administration Office: 822-6433

Police Investigations: 822-2164

CITY HALL

Administration: 822-3331

Taxes: 882-1502

Water: 882-1507

Court Clerk: 882-1501

Public Works: 826-0516 (includes permits, garbage & trash, brush, recycling, inspections, etc.)

Mayor & Aldermen

Louis Cooper-MAYOR

882-1511

lcooper@alamoheightstx.gov

Bobby Rosenthal- MAYOR PRO TEM

PLACE 2

882-1513

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Stan McCormick-PLACE 1

882-1512

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Jill Souter-PLACE 3

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Bill Kiel-PLACE 4

882-1515

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Susan Harwell-PLACE 5

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City Officials

Rebecca Waldman-CITY MANAGER

882-1500

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Shawn Eddy-PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

882-1506

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Darren Smith-FIRE CHIEF

832-2205

dsmith@alamoheightstx.gov

Rick Pruitt-POLICE CHIEF

832-2200

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Cynthia Barr-CITY TREASURER/

TAX -ASSESSOR COLLECTOR

882-1502

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Marian Ramirez-ASSISTANT TO CITY

MANAGER/INFORMATION

TECHNOLOGY MANAGER

882-1508

mramirez@alamoheightstx.gov

Denise Silva - CITY SECRETARY

832-2209

dsilva@alamoheightstx.gov

Judie Surratt-HUMAN RESOURCE

MANAGER/DEPUTY CITY SECRETARY

882-1503

jsurratt@alamoheightstx.gov

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CITY BRIEFS

Plan for a Safe Shopping Season

When shopping during the holiday season, take steps to ensure your safety. The most important defense against criminals is to stay alert, since criminals look for people whose attention is diverted. Eliminate the opportunity for surprise by being aware of other people and what they are doing. Some additional safety tips:

- Walk with a purpose and stay alert to your surroundings.
- Shop with a friend, since a person traveling alone is more vulnerable.
- Never sit in your vehicle reading or eating.
- Do not leave your purse or wallet unattended or opened.
- Park in well-lighted areas, lock your car and do not leave valuables in view.
- If someone who does not belong is around your vehicle, walk back into the nearest public place and call for an escort, such as the store manager or a security person.
- Don't be profiled by criminals. Avoid wearing expensive jewelry, use debit cards or credit cards and do not show large amounts of cash.
- Leave plenty of room between your vehicle and the car ahead to provide an emergency escape route.

Always remember, resistance to robbery attempts may escalate the situation and increase the risk of personal harm to you or a family member. Don't argue. Your well-being is worth more than material possessions.

Tree Preservation and Right of Way Safety Ordinance Passed

On November 14th, City Council adopted a Tree Preservation and Right of Way Safety Ordinance. This new Ordinance requires a Tree Removal Permit for the removal of any "Heritage" tree, requires the registration of Tree Service Vendors and reporting of commercial tree services. It also includes provisions to protect trees during construction and creates a requirement to prune tree limbs or other vegetation back to the curb or edge of pavement at a height of 13 feet, 6 inches upon notification by the City to provide transit space for fire trucks and ambulances on City streets.

The full version of the ordinance is available on the City's website at www.alamoheightstx.gov/news.

Explorers Wanted in Police and Fire Program

The Alamo Heights Police and Fire departments are recruiting candidates for the Police and Fire Explorer Program. This exciting program will provide education in public safety through instruction and opportunity for hands-on participation in a variety of police, fire and emergency medical services skills and procedures.

The Explorer program also encourages participation in a variety of community service activities and will enhance the Explorer's preparation for roles as good citizens, community leaders and, possibly, future police officers or fire fighters.

Membership is open to all young women and men between 14 and 21 years of age. If you are interested in the Alamo Heights Fire and Police Explorer Program, please call Officer J.W. Petrash, in the Community Resources Office, at 210-832-2201.

Rotary Club Announces Holiday Decorating Contest

To encourage and recognize the efforts of Alamo Heights residents who contribute to the attractive holiday atmosphere, the Alamo Heights Rotary Club will conduct its Annual Holiday Decoration Contest again in December.

All single family residences in the City of Alamo Heights are eligible and no entry form is required. Decorations will be evaluated for their appearance, attractiveness and manner in which they complement their location.

Judging will take place Dec. 10-12, with results announced during the fourth week of December. Judging will be accomplished by a panel of representatives of the Alamo Heights Rotary Club. First, second and third place winners will be selected and will receive gift certificates to local establishments. Additionally, their selection will be published in the North San Antonio Times.

Water Winter Averaging

Water consumption during the winter months affects your residential sewer service fee for the next year. Residential sewer service fees are calculated based upon the average water usage during three consecutive billing periods between November and March.

For more information or questions, please contact Lety Hernandez, Utility Billing Coordinator, at 882-1507.